

**645—181.3(154,272C) Standards.**

**181.3(1) General criteria.** A continuing education activity which meets all of the following criteria is appropriate for continuing education credit if the continuing education activity:

- a. Constitutes an organized program of learning which contributes directly to the professional competency of the licensee;
- b. Pertains to common subject matters which integrally relate to the practice of the profession;
- c. Is conducted by individuals who have specialized education, training and experience by reason of which said individuals should be considered qualified concerning the subject matter of the program.

At the time of audit, the board may request the qualifications of presenters;

- d. Fulfills stated program goals, objectives, or both; and
- e. Provides proof of attendance to licensees in attendance including:
  - (1) Date, location, course title, presenter(s);
  - (2) Numbers of program contact hours; and
  - (3) Certificate of completion or evidence of successful completion of the course provided by the course sponsor.

**181.3(2) Specific criteria.**

a. Continuing education hours of credit may be obtained by attending:

- (1) The continuing education programs of the Iowa Optometric Association, the American Optometric Association, the American Academy of Optometry, and national regional optometric congresses, schools of optometry, all state optometric associations, and the department of ophthalmology of the school of medicine of the University of Iowa;

- (2) Postgraduate study through an accredited school or college of optometry;

- (3) Meetings or seminars that are approved and certified for optometric continuing education by the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry's Council on Optometric Practitioner Education Committee (COPE); or

- (4) Beginning with the July 1, 2006, biennium, therapeutic licensees who provide proof of current CELMO certification meet continuing education requirements for the biennium.

b. The maximum number of hours in each category in each biennium is as follows:

- (1) Ten hours of credit for local study group programs that meet the criteria.

- (2) Ten hours of credit for correspondence courses, which include written and electronically transmitted material and have a posttest. Certification of the continuing education requirements and of passing the test must be given by the institution providing the continuing education, and that institution must be accredited by a regional or professional accreditation organization which is recognized or approved by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation of the United States Department of Education.

- (3) Six hours of credit for practice management courses.

- (4) Two hours of credit for dependent adult abuse and child abuse identification.

- (5) Four hours of credit for current certification in CPR, by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross or an equivalent organization.

- (6) Twenty hours of credit for postgraduate study courses.

c. Required continuing education hours. Beginning with the July 1, 2008, biennium, therapeutic licensees who provide proof of current CELMO certification meet continuing education requirements for the biennium. If the licensee does not have current proof of CELMO certification, then the following are required in order to meet the continuing education requirement in paragraph 181.2(1) "b":

- (1) Twenty hours required from COPE Category B (Ocular Disease and Management) and 20 hours required from COPE Category C (Related Systemic Disease); and

- (2) Ten additional hours required from any of the COPE Categories of A (Clinical Optometry), B, C and D (Optometric Business Management). Hours obtained in Category D may not exceed 6 hours of the total continuing education hours requirement.